

DETAILED ACTION

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 6/30/11 has been entered.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

1. The Specification page 1, line 7: after "June 22,2001," -- now U.S. Patent No. 7,261,735, -- has been inserted.
2. The Specification page 1, line 9: after "2000," -- now abandoned, -- has been inserted.
3. The Specification page 1, line 10: after "May 7, 2001" -- now abandoned -- has been inserted.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 1 is allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The applicant's arguments dated 6/30/11 are persuasive. The prior art of record fails to teach alone or in combination, inter alia, an anastomosis device with a primer layer and biocompatible vehicle affixed to the primer layer, the biocompatible vehicle comprises a polyfluoro copolymer comprising vinylidenefluoride with the weight percentages as stated in the claims, and the primer layer being a diluted version of the polyfluoro compound with the weight of the biocompatible layer being about .4 to 10 percent by weight and rapamycin incorporated into the biocompatible vehicle with a thin top coating that delays the release of the rapaycin.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Melissa Ryckman whose telephone number is (571)272-9969 and email is Melissa.Ryckman@uspto.gov. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, please contact the examiner's supervisor, Corrine McDermott, at (571) 272-4754. The fax phone

Art Unit: 3773

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

If there are any inquiries that are not being addressed by first contacting the Examiner or the Supervisor, you may send an email inquiry to

TC3700_Workgroup_D_Inquiries@uspto.gov.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MKR
/Melissa Ryckman/
Examiner, Art Unit 3773

/CORRINE M McDERMOTT/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3773